

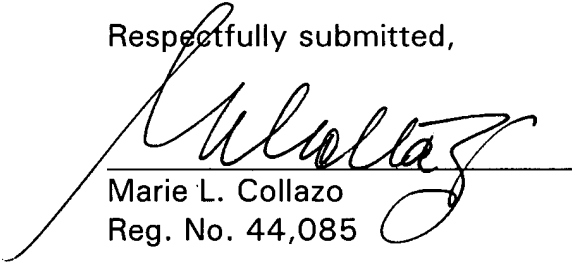
-- **CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

AI
This application is a 371 of International Application No. PCT/US00/04140, filed February 16, 2000, which claims priority of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/120,483, filed February 18, 1999, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated by reference herein.--

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment is in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(5)(i). The reference is being submitted within four months of filing the application, the Patent and Trademark Office also recognized this information and included it on the filing receipt (a copy of the filing receipt is enclosed). Accordingly, no fee or petition is due with this Preliminary Amendment. See 66 Fed. Reg. 67087, 67090. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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